Pages of Michael Kurtz's <u>Crime of the Century</u> I used in what I wrote about Hunt & his book. Don't need to keep 3

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PREFACE

THE ASSASSINATION of President John Fitzgerald Kennedy is one of those historical events that etch themselves forever in the mind. Few adults cannot recall precisely what they were doing when they first heard of the fateful shooting in Dallas. Kennedy's murder proved to be a stunning, shocking event that seemed to alter history with one blow. Today, many years later, the Kennedy assassination remains one of the great traumatic events of contemporary society.

Television brought the assassination and its aftermath vividly into the national consciousness. In their finest hours, the electronic news media captured the events unfolding in Dallas and Washington and transmitted them instantaneously to the American people. Far more graphically and realistically than the printed page, the video screen depicted some of the most unforgettable scenes in recent history: a tearful Walter Cronkite announcing the news of the president's death; Jacqueline Kennedy, her suit and stockings smeared with her husband's blood, disembarking from Air Force One; three-year-old "John-John" Kennedy saluting his father's flag-draped coffin; the haunting cadence of the muffled drums sounding the rhythm of the funeral cortege; Jack Ruby gunning down Lee Harvey Oswald.

The impact of the Kennedy assassination on American history was considerable. It plucked Lyndon Johnson from the obscurity of the vice-presidency and played a significant role in the Democratic party's sweep of the 1964 national elections. It reversed our Vietnam policy, from Kennedy's deescalation of United States involvement in the Indochina conflict to Johnson's escalation of it. It invigorated the seemingly defunct political career of Richard Nixon, for Barry Goldwater's disastrous de-

32. Ibid., II, 105–6.
33. *HSCA Report,* 80.
34. Ibid., 81.
35. Ibid., 95–225.
36. Ibid., 129–78.
37. Ibid., 9–20.
38. Ibid., 54–56; *Appendix to HSCA Hearings,* VI, 138–225.

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2. Ruby interrogation, *WC Hearings,* V, 194; *WC Report,* 373.
3. See *HSCA Report,* 156–59.
4. Jerry Herald interview; FBI reports of interviews with Carrol Jarnigan and Lawhill Wade, FBI Papers.
5. FBI Report, 12 Dec. 1964, FBI Papers; FBI Report, 11 Dec. 1964, ibid.
6. Jerry Herald interview.
7. See Michael L. Kurtz, "Lee Harvey Oswald in New Orleans: A Reappraisal," *Louisiana History* 21 (1980), 7–22.
8. Ibid., 18–19; *HSCA Report,* 143–46.
9. Kurtz, "Oswald in New Orleans," 18–20; *HSCA Report,* 143–46.
10. Author's interview, George Wilcox, 9 Sept. 1979.
11. *HSCA Report,* 143–46; FBI interviews of David Ferrie, 26 Nov. 1963, 27 Nov. 1963, FBI Papers.
12. *Appendix to HSCA Hearings,* vol. X.
13. Sullivan testimony, U.S. Senate, *Investigation of the Kennedy Assassination,* 32–43; Katzenbach deposition, 4 Aug. 1978, *Appendix to HSCA Hearings,* XI, 76.
14. CIA Papers, miscellaneous documents. some citation!

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1. *HSCA Report,* 230–34; *HSCA Hearings,* III, 447; Commission Documents 137, 1347, WC Records, NA.
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3. *Appendix to HSCA Hearings,* X, 199.

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5. FBI Documents 535, 1643, 1762, FBI Papers; CIA Documents 288-692, 347-115, 370-727B, Papers of the Central Intelligence Agency on the Assassination of President Kennedy. Linus A. Sims Memorial Library, Southeastern Louisiana University, Hammond, La. Hereafter cited as CIA Papers. at the very end!
6. *HSCA Report,* 137–39.
7. *Appendix to HSCA Hearings,* X, 83.
8. *Dallas Morning News,* 10 June 1979.
9. *WC Hearings,* XXIV, 704; XXVI, 450, 682, 702–4; Commission Documents 950, 385, WC Records, NA.
10. *WC Hearings,* X, 386; XXIII, 403; XXVI, 368.
11. *WC Report,* 330–38.
12. Mercer affadavit, *WC Hearings,* XIX, 483–84; Rowland testimony, ibid., II, 167–76; Helen Forrest interview; *Dallas Morning News,* 19 Dec. 1978; Anthony Summers, *Conspiracy* (New York: McGraw-Hill, 1980), 73–74.
13. Sibert-O'Neill Report, 4. which No pg. citation
14. Zapruder film, frames Z189–208.
15. Ibid., Z312–313.
16. Ibid., Z327–335.
17. *Appendix to HSCA Hearings,* VII, 175.
18. Ibid., VI, 54–56.
19. Ibid. This contains the trajectory analysis, which distorted the true position of Governor Connally. The angle from the "Oswald" window to the limousine was 17 degrees. *WC Report,* 106–7.
20. *WC Hearings,* VI, 294–95; VII, 107.
21. *Appendix to HSCA Hearings,* VII, 226–27.
22. *WC Hearings,* II, 132–34; *HSCA Report,* 81.
23. Zapruder film, frames Z321–331.
24. Ibid., Z314–327.
25. Ibid., Z328–331.
26. Ibid., Z327–331.
27. *Appendix to HSCA Hearings,* VII, 103–34.
28. Ibid., XII, 18–19.
29. *WC Report,* 669–80; FBI Report, Section EBF, Document no. 377, FBI Papers.
30. *WC Report,* 690–702; see Edward Jay Epstein, *Legend: The Secret World of Lee Harvey Oswald* (New York: Reader's Digest, 1978).
31. FBI Report, sec. 53, no. NO-100-16601, 85 pp., FBI Papers.
32. Summers, *Conspiracy,* 297–343, 362–66.
33. *WC Report,* 730–40.

34. FBI Report, sec. 53, no. NO-100-16601, FBI Papers.
35. U.S. Senate, *Investigation of the Assassination,* 28–31; Cable, Mexico City Station to CIA Headquarters, 26 Nov. 1963, CIA Papers.
36. U.S. Senate, *Investigation of the Assassination,* 60–61.
37. Hoover to FBI Legation, Madrid, 24 Nov. 1963, sec. 26, Document 1643, FBI Papers; CIA Document 412-76, 27 Nov. 1963, CIA Document 347-115, 7 Dec. 1963, CIA Document 370-727B, 10 Dec. 1963, CIA Papers.
38. U.S. Senate, *Investigation of the Assassination,* 14–21.
39. *HSCA Report,* 127–29.
40. Ibid., 133–34.
41. Ibid.
42. Ibid., 147.
43. Ibid., 147–80.

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Other sources remain unavailable to the researcher. The working papers and unpublished documents of the House Select Committee on Assassinations, for example, are filed with the Clerk of the House and are placed under a fifty year time seal. A large number of the papers of the Warren Commission, the FBI, and the CIA are either censored or classified and thus beyond the scrutiny of the scholar.

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Thoroughly documented and based on the most exhaustive research carried out to date on John Kennedy's murder, *Crime of the Century* draws on a variety of primary source materials from the National Archives and the FBI's and CIA's declassified assassination files. It utilizes the latest source materials released by the House Select Committee's investigation. The depth of research, the rigorously objective sifting of evidence, and the incisive critique of official investigative bias make this a book of importance not only to students of the Kennedy assassination in particular, but also to scholars of government response to political violence in general.

MICHAEL L. KURTZ is professor of history at Southeastern Louisiana University, Hammond, Louisiana. He is co-author of LOUISIANA: A HISTORY and was associate editor for READINGS IN LOUISIANA HISTORY.

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There is none. Video pretty WWR fake ejection

that the fragments could have been planted in the limousine, the strange markings on case 544, indicating that it, too, had been previously loaded and ejected from another rifle, and the confusion as to which of the three cartridge cases was found west of the window give rise to serious doubts as to whether such a speculation is valid.

Thus, there is strong and compelling evidence that only one of the three cartridge cases, Commission Exhibit 544, could possibly have played a role in the assassination. Both Case 543 and Case 545 could not have done so, for reasons cited above. This substantiates the fact that only one of the three cases was discovered in a location consistent with the ejection pattern of Oswald's rifle. Commission Exhibits 543 and 545 must, therefore, have been placed there by someone. None of the three cases bore fingerprints of any kind, indicating that Oswald may not have handled them (Oswald left many other prints elsewhere). Since an absolute minimum of two shots were fired, most probably four or five, and since only one of the three cartridges could possibly have figured in the assassination, shots must have been fired from elsewhere.

Indicates more someone just shoes. Why? wrong, no mention? Tag it to Mary

From the foregoing examples, it should be clear that the Warren Commission failed properly to evaluate the evidence before it. The commission assumed that Lee Harvey Oswald fired the shots from the sixth-floor southeast window of the Book Depository building. It used evidence that supported this conclusion and rejected that which refuted it. While there was, indeed, hard physical, ballistics, and eyewitness evidence to substantiate the commission's conclusions in part, the historian cannot accept them as definitive. Other evidence clearly points to other places in Dealey Plaza as possible sources of the gunfire.

CHAPTER 4

THE SHOTS IN THE BACK

The nature of the bullet wounds suffered by President Kennedy and Governor Connally and the location of the car at the time of the shots establish that the bullets were fired from above and behind the Presidential limousine, striking the President and the Governor as follows:

(1) President Kennedy was first struck by a bullet which entered at the back of his neck and exited through the lower front portion of his neck, causing a wound which would not necessarily have been lethal. The President was struck a second time by a bullet which entered the right-rear portion of his head, causing a massive and fatal wound.

(2) Governor Connally was struck by a bullet which entered on the right side of his back and traveled downward through the right side of his chest, exiting below his right nipple. This bullet then passed through his right wrist and entered his left thigh, where it caused a superficial wound.[1]

Not true given WC says but wrong

OF ALL THE CONTROVERSY surrounding the Warren Commission and its conclusions, none has generated more heated debate than that concerning the medical evidence. The above statements form the *Warren Report*'s synopsis of the wounds inflicted on President Kennedy and Governor Connally. They are cited in the *Report*'s conclusions as part of the evidence for the assertion that all shots were fired from the sixth-floor southeast corner window of the Texas School Book Depository building.

The bases for the commission's medical evidence were the testimony and medical reports of the Dallas doctors who treated the president and of the autopsy surgeons, the president's and governor's clothing, films of the assassination, trajectory tests conducted by the FBI, and wounds ballistics tests conducted by

Not true. Not one agreed that evidence supports 399 as villain in Single-bullet theory

the Army. Considering the testimony and evidence before it, the commission arrived at a reasonable conclusion. As we shall see, however, much of the medical evidence was never shown to the commission, and the panel was given misleading information by Arlen Specter, the legal counsel in charge of the medical and ballistics evidence.[2]

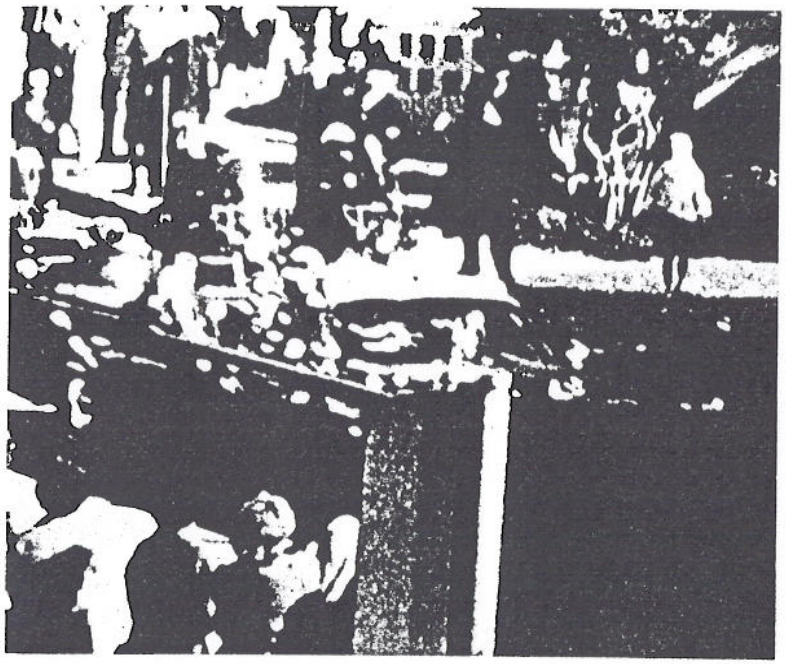
THE SINGLE-BULLET THEORY

According to the Warren Commission, "it is not necessary to determine just which shot hit Governor Connally." This, however, is not true. It is, in fact, essential to determine which shot struck Governor Connally, for that determination forms a vital link in the chain of evidence indicating the number of assassins.[3]

The critics of the Warren Commission rarely agreed with the commission about anything. One aspect of the medical and ballistics evidence that has generated the most controversy is the single-bullet theory. As discussed in Chapter Two, the theory maintains that a bullet from the rifle of Lee Harvey Oswald struck President Kennedy in the back of the neck and exited from his throat just below the Adam's apple. That same bullet entered Governor Connally's back, exited from his chest, went completely through his right wrist, and lodged in his left thigh. Because Oswald could not fire his bolt-action rifle fast enough to wound Kennedy and Connally with separate shots, the single-bullet theory is essential to the Warren Commission's lone-assassin thesis.[4]

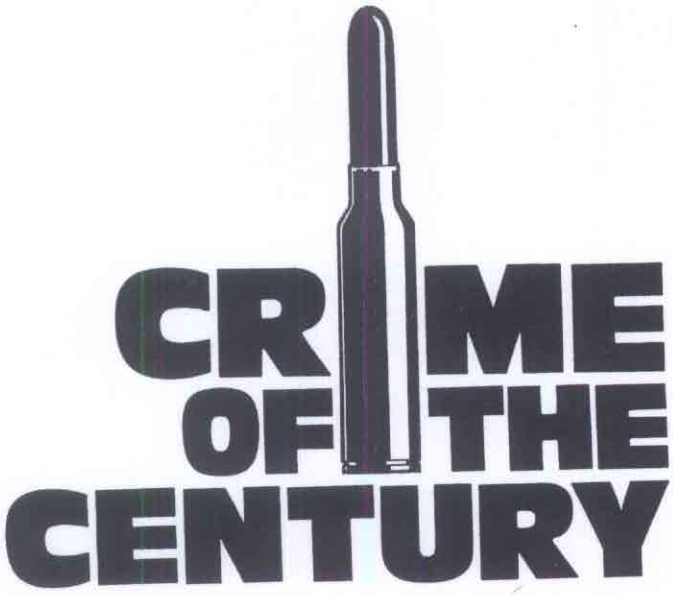
Because the Zapruder film showed Kennedy reacting in pain to a shot in frame Z225, the shot must have been fired prior to that frame. The shot could not have been fired before frame Z210, however, because an oak tree blocked Oswald's view of the limousine before that frame. As the commission observed, "Even the most proficient marksman" could not have fired through the leaves of the tree and hit the president. Therefore, Kennedy must have been struck between frames Z210 and Z225.[5]

Governor Connally, however, appears to be uninjured in frame Z225. In that and in the succeeding ten frames, Connally shows no indication of pain or any other sign of being wounded.



1. *Zapruder Frame Z189.* Kennedy and Connally at the time of the first shot.

see his criticisms of Wrong



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